

Digital Commonwealth Collection

tops 700,000 items!!!

Collection Update for April 2019

2,950 new items were added in April including:

Hosted

- Boston Public Library - Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864-1901). Prints and Drawings (9 items)*
- Boston Public Library - Press Photography from the Brearley Collection (753 items)*
- Boston Public Library - Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee (1873 items)*
- Lawrence Public Library - Franklin Associates (22 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Lawrence High School Athletic Department (132 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Lawrence, Mass. Board of Health, Records (10 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Lawrence, Mass. Engineering Department (7 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Lawrence, Mass. Flood of 1936 (76 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Lawrence, Mass. Glass Plate Negatives (14 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Lawrence, Mass. Textile Strike of 1912 (13 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - New Deal Seminar, April 2008 (3 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Religion in Massachusetts Seminar, May 2008 (12 items)
- Lawrence Public Library - Southern Slavery Seminar, November 2008 (7 items)



Harvested

- Boston College (1 new collection; 84 new items)**

* items added to existing collection

** re-harvest

127,824 Item views

703,909 Total item-level records

289,664 Total hosted items

Conference Speaker Presentations now online...

The majority of presentations from the 2019 are now available online [here](#). Thank you again to all our speakers for participating in the conference!

Featured New Collection Items, Lawrence MA, Flood of 1936

An early spring thaw and heavy rains following extremely heavy snowfall during the 1935-1936 winter filled Lake Winnepesaukee to dangerous levels and the spill-off began to flood the Merrimack, Spicket, and Shawsheen Rivers. A record 46.85 feet water level was recorded at the Lawrence Dam. Damages from the storm amounted to \$300M with 400,000 homeless and 178 deaths. See the complete collection [here](#).



Between bridge and falls

2020 Conference: Save the Date

The Conference Committee has already reserved the College of the Holy Cross for the 2020 Conference.... mark **Tuesday April 7, 2020** on your calendar now!

Digital Commonwealth goes to DPLA Fest 2019...

Members of the DPLA Community gathered at Chicago Public Library's Harold Washington Library Center for the fifth DPLA Fest and Network Day. Over three hundred delegates from public libraries, academic libraries, museums, and networks attended. DC's VP/President Elect and DPLA Network Rep, Alan Karass, was in attendance. The event began on April 16 with Network Day. Each DPLA Network sends representatives to participate in a forum that focuses on DPLA's current initiatives, strategic planning process, and future projects. This year's discussions centered on the organization's cultural heritage work, prospects for expanding the network, and the SimplyE e-book program. Additionally, staff members were actively engaged in conversations about improving communication with network members, financial sustainability, and staffing.



Alan Karass represents DC at DPLA Fest 2019



DPLA Fest continued April 17 and 18, featuring plenary sessions, lightning round talks, and breakout sessions. Michelle Kimpton, Director of Business Development for DPLA, announced DPLA's new partnership with the New York Public Library and Lyris to develop a national digital ebooks platform for libraries (see full announcement [here](#)). Chicago Mayor **Rahm Emanuel** made an exciting and unscheduled visit to talk about his library-related initiatives, and his belief in the transformative power of libraries! Sociologist Eric Klinenberg from New

York University discussed his ideas on the role of libraries in contemporary American society. Louise Bernard outlined the challenges of establishing the Obama Presidential Center and its digital collections.

Elaine Westbrook, University Librarian at UNC Chapel Hill, offering compelling commentary on the issue of diversity, equity, inclusion, and reconciliation in libraries and archives. The numerous breakout sessions cover a broad variety of topics including virtual reality in libraries, rights statements, copyright, digital storytelling, and community engagement. You can view recordings of all speakers and plenaries [here](#). As a follow on to Digital Commonwealth's conference, Elaine Westbrook's address was excellent and thought provoking and well worth taking the time to view.



Mayor Rahm Emanuel drops in to address attendees

Spring is here & May is National Asparagus Month...

It's certainly looking green outside and it's time to be thinking about fresh vegetables – particularly asparagus! Did you think DC might not have anything on this topic in its collection? There is an interesting collection of photographs from Hibbard Farm in North Hadley by Nancy Palmieri from the UMass Amherst Libraries and there's also one of an asparagus field from 1911 from the Longmeadow Historical Society.



*"Asparagus Field"
Paesiello Emerson, 1911
Glass negative.*

Need new inspiration for cooking and serving asparagus? Be sure to view "[Asparagus; From Tip to Butt](#)" from the inimitable Julia Child, harvested from WGBH!!

Membership News

Welcome new member!

- Webster-Dudley Historical Society

Welcome back all our returning members!

- College of the Holy Cross
- Harvard University Botany Libraries
- Peabody Institute Library of Danvers
- Topsfield Historical Society
- Ventress Memorial Library
- Winchester Public Library
- Worcester Art Museum
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute